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| Subject: | National Planning Policy Framework | Status: | For Publication |
| Report to: | Development Control Committee | Date: | 17 April 2012 |
| Report of: | Planning Unit Manager | Portfolio Holder: | Operational Services and Development Control |
| Key Decision: | <input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/> | General Exception | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Community Impact Assessment: | Required: | No | Attached: No |
| Biodiversity Impact Assessment | Required: | No | Attached: No |
| Contact Officer: | Paul Talbot | Telephone: | 01706 238637 |
| Email: | planning@rossendalebc.gov.uk | | |

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| 1. | RECOMMENDATION(S) |
| | That the report be noted |

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Members that Government Planning Policy has been revised.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:

- **A clean and green Rossendale** – creating a better environment for all.
- **A healthy and successful Rossendale** – supporting vibrant communities and a strong economy.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

On 27 March 2012 the Government published its National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to replace all existing Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs) and Planning Policy Statements (PPSs). Its aim is to strengthen local decision making and reinforce the importance of up-to-date plans.

The Framework sets out national planning policy in a consolidated set of priorities to consider when planning for and deciding on new development and are intended to assist communities enjoy a better quality of life.

The Framework sets national priorities and rules only where it is necessary to do so. It will help ensure that planning decisions reflect genuine national objectives - such as the need to safeguard the natural environment, combat climate change, and to support sustainable local growth - while allowing for local authorities and communities to produce their own plans, reflecting the distinctive needs and priorities of different parts of the country.

The principle of sustainable development permeates the new Framework; that the actions we take to meet our needs today must not compromise the ability of future generations to meet

their own. And that planning decisions should not only protect, but, wherever possible, enhance biodiversity and improve people's access to our natural heritage.

It sets out policies for achieving sustainable development under the following headings :

1. Building a strong, competitive economy
2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres
3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy
4. Promoting sustainable transport
5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure
6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes
7. Requiring good design
8. Promoting healthy communities
9. Protecting Green Belt land
10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals

6. COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

SECTION 151 OFFICER

No comments

MONITORING OFFICER

No comments

HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

No comments

7. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

None

8. CONCLUSION

Members of the Development Control Committee need to be mindful of the National Planning Policy Framework issued by Government in the determination of applications which come before them.

Background Papers

| Document | Place of Inspection |
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| National Planning Policy Framework (2012) http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf | Internet/ One Stop Shop, Lord Street, Rawtenstall, BB4 7LZ |